

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /034 W
-----003527 172119Z /13

P R 172038Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 203

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 6180

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, CI

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: REPORTED MULTILATERAL COMMITMENT TO RESIST U.S.
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION POLICY

REF: (A) STATE 201758 (B) CARACAS 7312 (C) SANTIAGO 5573

1. JUAN PABLO LANGLOIS, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE JUNTA DE AERONATICAL CIVIL, HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THE SUBSTANCE OF RIO MEETING REPORTED IN CARACAS 7312. HE GAVE A DIFFERENT CHARACTERIZATION TO THE ARGREEMENT THAT WAS SIGNED BY THE FOUR COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, CALLING IT A PROPOSAL FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT BIENNIAL CLAC MEETING TO BE HELD IN SANTIAGO THIS NOVEMBER. THE COMMITMENT NOT TO SIGN CHARTER BILATERALS OR APPROVE NON IATA ESTABLISHED FARES IS BINDING ONLY UNTIL THE FULL CLAC MEETING IN NOVEMBER. CHILE CONSIDERS THIS AGREEMENT A MEANS FOR DETERMINING WHERE THE CLAC COUNTRIES STAND ON THE ISSUES, NOT A CHILEAN DECISION TO SUPPORT RESTRICTIVE CIVIL AIR POLICIES OR HIGH FARE STRUCTURES.

2. ON THE CONTRARY, LANGLOIS SAID, CHILEAN CIVIL AIR POLICIES WILL BE CONSISTENT WITH ITS FREE MARKET ORIENTED ECONOMIC POLICY GENERALLY. CHILE HAS NO ESTABLISHED POLICY ON CHARTER FLIGHTS,
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FOR EXAMPLE, BUT ALL OF THE INFREQUENT APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL CHARTERS AND FARES ARE APPROVED. CHILE'S POSITION IN THE CLAC MEETING WILL BE TO FAVOR BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON CHARTER FARES, OR ANY MECHANISM THAT WILL TEND TO REDUCE FARES.

3. CHILE TENDS TO SUPPORT THE RIO PROPOSAL ON THE IATA ISSUE, HOWEVER, WHICH COULD BE A PRELUDE TO MAKING CLAC THE FORUM FOR ESTAB-

LISHING FARE RATES IN LATIN AMERICAN SHOULD IATA COLLAPSE. WHILE CHILE TENDS TO FAVOR LOW PER-MILE FARES ON LONG FLIGHTS, IT ALSO RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR RELATIVELY HIGHER FARES ON MANY SHORTER ROUTES, AND THEREFORE SOME ORGANIZATION THAT CAN ESTABLISH RATIONAL FARE STRUCTURES IN LATIN AMERICA.

4. CHILE WAS REPRESENTED AT THE RIO MEETING BY A SECOND ECHELON OFFICIAL OF THE DIRECCION AERONAUTICA, AND DECIDED TO ATTEND ONLY AFTER STRONG URGING FROM BRAZIL. LANGLOIS SAID THAT BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA ARE THE HARDLINERS IN OPPOSITION TO THE THRUST OF RECENT CAB POLICIES SUCH AS THE HEARINGS TO RECONSIDER THE U.S. ANTI-TRUST WAIVER FOR IATA AIR FARE RATES.

5. LANGLOIS ADDED THAT WHILE HE EXPECTED NO MAJOR CHANGES IN CHILEAN CIVIL AIR POLICY, HE WOULD KNOW BETTER AFTER THE NEWLY-NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECCION AERONAUTICA HAS BEEN ON THE JOB A WHILE. CURRENTLY THE CHILEAN DEFENSE ATTACHE IN BRASILIA, GENERAL ROXAS WILL NOT ASSUME THIS POSITION UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER. MEANTIME, THE DIRECCION AERONAUTICA IS A BUREAUCRATIC SHAMBLES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR TRANSPORTATION, POLICIES, CIVIL AVIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTIA06180
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780337-0028
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780853/aaaabsho.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96a0fc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 201758, 78 CARACAS 7312, 78 SANTIAGO 5573
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1708787
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: REPORTED MULTILATERAL COMMITMENT TO RESIST U.S. INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION POLICY
TAGS: EAIR, CI, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96a0fc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014